

given on the label is "Ocean Pacifique," but some one has added in pencil "Coast of Peru."

Æ. fisheri and *Æ. defilippiana* are very distinct. The latter is decidedly less in general size, although the bill is absolutely larger than in *Æ. fisheri*. The lower parts are entirely white, except on the sides of the breast, where there is an encroachment of the pure ash-gray of the nape. The top of the head is quite uniform gray, except anteriorly, where the feathers are bordered with white, producing a distinct squamation. The wings are entirely concolor on their outer surface, and the inner web of the outer tail-feather is wholly pure white. The diagnostic characters of the two species should therefore be amended as follows:

Æ. fisheri.—Lower parts chiefly smoky plumbeous on the surface, this color nearly uniform on belly and flanks; greater wing-coverts, secondaries and tertials silvery plumbeous, broadly edged with pure white, the lesser coverts uniform dusky in strong contrast; rectrices (except middle pair) white, transversely vermiculated on both webs with ash-gray; top of head white, spotted with dusky; feet, including webs, dusky, except basal portion of inner web and toe. Wing 10.15, tail 4 (graduated for .90 of an inch), culmen 1, tarsus 1.25,* middle toe with claw, 1.70.

Æ. defilippiana.—Lower parts entirely pure white, except on sides of breast, which are ash-gray, like the nape. Outer surface of wings uniform dusky; rectrices uniform ash-gray, except two outer pairs, which have inner webs white (the second finely sprinkled with gray towards end), the outer webs finely mottled gray; feet, including webs, pale-colored (fleshy in life), except outer side of outer toe, which is dusky. Wing, 8.70–9.00; tail, 3.80–4.00 (graduated for 1.00 inch); culmen 1.04–1.05; tarsus 1.07–1.12; middle toe with claw, 1.40.

In pattern of coloration and in dimensions *Æ. defilippiana* resembles much more closely the *Æ. cooki*; but the latter has the pileum and nape very much darker (dark sooty slate, almost black in some lights), all the rectrices gray on both webs, and the feet dark colored except basally. *Æ. cooki* is also a little smaller than *Æ. defilippiana*.

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION, *January 16, 1885.*

ICTERUS CUCULLATUS, SWAINSON, AND ITS GEOGRAPHICAL VARIATIONS.

By ROBERT RIDGWAY.

The National Museum having recently acquired some very intensely colored examples of this species from Yucatan, which on first sight appeared conspicuously different from Arizona specimens of the same species, a careful examination was made of all the material accessible

*Not 1.35 as erroneously printed in original description.

to the writer, embracing altogether 45 adult males (6 from Yucatan, 9 from eastern and southern Mexico, and 30 from northwestern Mexico, including Arizona and Lower California). From this comparison of specimens the following facts become at once evident:

(1) That all specimens from Arizona, southern California (San Diego), Lower California, and western Mexico as far south as Mazatlan, are uniformly and decidedly paler in coloration than those from other portions of Mexico, the yellow never assuming an orange tint, but approaching quite closely to the tint known as Indian yellow, from which there is scarcely any variation in a series of 30 specimens. The difference is so great and so constant that the birds from the region in question should be separated as a well-marked geographical race.

(2) Specimens from Yucatan are, on the other hand, more intensely colored than those from southern and eastern Mexico, the orange color being both more intense and purer. It may be necessary to separate the Yucatan birds on this account, but having only six specimens, and these in somewhat worn plumage, I would not under the circumstances feel justified in making the separation. Should such a step be deemed desirable or necessary, however, I propose for the Yucatan bird the name *Icterus cucullatus igneus*.

The name *cucullatus* having been based by Swainson upon a specimen or specimens from Temiscaltepec, on the table land of southwestern Mexico, it follows that the form requiring a new name is that inhabiting the northwestern portions, or a definite region extending from Mazatlan to southern Arizona, thence west to San Diego, and again southward to Cape St. Lucas. This new form may be appropriately named *Icterus cucullatus nelsoni*, Arizona Hooded Oriole, Mr. E. W. Nelson having supplied the material upon which these observations are based.

Type, No. 98992, ♂ ad., Tucson, Arizona, April 26, 1884; E. W. Nelson.

PASSER SATURATUS, A NEW SPECIES OF TREE-SPARROW FROM
THE LIU-KIU ISLANDS, JAPAN.

By LEONHARD STEJNEGER.

Passer saturatus, sp. n.

DIAGNOSIS.—Similar to *Passer montanus*, but washed all over with umber-brown, except on head, which is slightly tinged with ashy; the feathers on the breast are indistinctly edged with brown, the cross-bands on the wings are broad and strongly suffused with the brown color, and the whitish or grayish tips of the tertiaries have entirely disappeared, the whole border being brown; on back no trace of gray, and the black stripes small and few; all brown colors, except that of the head, deeper and richer.